



Bureau of Land Management
Lake Havasu Field Office
2610 Sweetwater Avenue
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406



Categorical Exclusion Assignment, Review and Approval					NEPA Number:		CX-AZ-330-05-0009
					Date:		February 28, 2005
					Sub-activity:		2920
					Case/Project No:		AZA-22520
Name of Project:		Renewal of the Chesney Agricultural lease			Type:	Agricultural Lease	
Location (legal description)		T.	17 N	R.	21W	Section:	19, lots 1,2, portion of E1/2NW1/4
		T.		R.		Section:	
		T.		R.		Section:	
Applicant (s): Robert H. Chesney and Sarah S. Chesney Revocable Trust							

Description of Proposed Action: Robert H. and Sarah S. Chesney (Chesney) have requested a renewal of their 95 acre agricultural lease (Attachment A).

This parcel was originally authorized under permit serial number 7A-16(A) by the Lower Colorado Land Use Office on November 13, 1961. In 1986 the BLM established a case file under serial number AZA-22520 and issued a section 302 FLMPA lease.

BLM manages this land pursuant to Department Manual 613 DM 1 (DM). This DM allows BLM to administer Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) withdrawn lands on the lower Colorado River.

The agricultural lease will expire on December 31, 2004. The lessee is in compliance with the terms and conditions. The Chesney's requested the lease be issued for another 10 years. However BOR, in a Memorandum received on December 9, 2002, request that the BLM issue the lease for no more than two years. Therefore, BLM will issue this lease for two years.

A new appraisal has been completed to determine the rental amount. The stipulations in the existing lease will still apply.

Categorical Exclusion Reference 516 D, 6. Appendix 5.4:	E. (9)	(BLM Categorical Exclusions List)
Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorization.		

Department of the Interior 516 DM 2, Appendix 2 provides for a review of the following categorical exclusion criteria to determine if exceptions apply to this project:		Yes	No
2.1	<i>Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety.</i>		X
2.2	<i>Have adverse effects on such unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks.</i>		X
2.3	<i>Have highly controversial environmental effects.</i>		X
2.4	<i>Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.</i>		X
2.5	<i>Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.</i>		X
2.6	<i>Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.</i>		X
2.7	<i>Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.</i>		X
2.8	<i>Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species.</i>		X
2.9	<i>Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.</i>		X
2.10	<i>Threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.</i>		X

The proposed project conforms to the following BLM Management plans for the area:

- 1) Yuma District Resource Management Plan approved in 1986

List existing NEPA Documents relevant to this Action:

Describe site specific consultation and coordination with other agencies and affected interests:

Bureau of Reclamation Boulder City NV

Technical Review:					
Critical Elements /Specialty	May Be Affected		If May affect / Mitigations Assigned	Signature Name/Title	Date
	Yes	No			
Air Quality		X			
				C. Bodman	
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern		X			
				Jill Miller-Allert	
Cultural Resources/ Paleontological Resources		X			
				Sarah Murray	
Environmental Justice		X			
				C. Bodman	
Farm Lands (Prime or Unique)		X			
				C Bodman	
Floodplain		X			
				C. Bodman	
Native American Religious Concerns		X			
				Sarah Murray	
Threatened or Endangered Species		X			
				Christine Bates	
Wastes, Hazardous or Solid		X			
				Cathy Wolff-White	
Water Quality, Drinking or Ground, Water Rights		X			
				C. Bodman	
Wetlands/Riparian Zones		X			
				Christine Bates	
Wild and Scenic Rivers		X			
				Jill Miller-Allert	
Wilderness		X			
				Jill Miller-Allert	
Invasive & Non Native Weeds		X			
				Christine Bates	
Lands/Realty		N/A			
				C. Bodman	
Law Enforcement		N/A			
				Brian Pittman	
Operations/Engineering Review		N/A			
				Mike Henderson	
Recreation		N/A			
				Myron McCoy	
Visual Resources Management		N/A			
				Myron McCoy	
Soils/Minerals		N/A			
				C. Bodman	
Wild Horses/ Burros		N/A			
				Cindy Barnes	
Range		N/A			
				Cindy Barnes	
Health & Safety		N/A			
				Bill Perry	

Review: *We have determined that the proposal is in accordance with the categorical exclusion criteria and that it would not involve any significant environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review.*

SIGNATURES

Prepared by: /s/ C. Bodman **Date:** 12-16-04
Project Lead

Review by: /s/ Patricia A. Taylor **Date:** 12-16-04
Supervisor

Decision: *Bureau of Land Management, Lake Havasu Field Office, has determined that this decision or action conforms to the land use plan, that none of the 10 exceptions apply, and that therefore neither an EA nor EIS is needed, The decision or action will be implemented subject to the stipulations attached to the authorizing document.*

Approved By: /s/ Robert M. Henderson **Date:** 12-16-04
Acting Field Manager, Lake Havasu Field Office

Stipulations

- 1) See Lease

Compliance and assignment of responsibility (Program or Employee):

Lake Havasu Field Office Realty Staff

Monitoring and assignment of responsibility: (Program or Employee):

Lake Havasu Field Office Realty Staff